

A G E N D A
City Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 20, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

➤ **OPENING**

- **Call to Order**
- **Devotional**
- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Roll Call**

➤ **RECEIVE INFORMAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Informal Public Comment – Speaker Protocol

The City of Garden City believes that any member of the general public should be afforded the opportunity to address the City Council provided that designated rules are followed by the speaker. Any member of the public who wishes to address the City Council and offer public comment on items within the City Council's jurisdiction, may do so during the Informal Public Comment period of the meeting. However, no formal action will be taken on matters that are not part of the posted agenda. Informal Public Comments are scheduled for a total of fifteen (15) minutes and each person will be limited to three (3) minutes. In order to ensure the opportunity for all those desiring to speak before the Council, there is no yielding of time to another speaker. Speakers not heard during the limited fifteen (15) minute period will be first to present their comments at the next Council meeting. The opportunity to address City Council on a topic of his/her choice shall be used by an individual only one (1) time per month. It may not be used to continue discussion on an agenda item that has already been held as a public hearing. Matters under negotiation, litigation, or related to personnel will not be discussed. If a member of the general public would like to address the City Council during the Informal Public Comment portion of the meeting, please respectfully indicate your desire to address the City Council when the Mayor solicits members of the general public to come forward and speak. You will be recognized by the Mayor and asked to come forward to the podium so that you can address the City Council in accordance with the rules outlined herein. Once the speaker has been recognized to speak, he/she will be given three (3) minutes to address the City Council. The speaker should not attempt to engage the City Council and/or Staff in a discussion/dialogue and the speaker should not ask specific questions with the expectation that an immediate answer will be provided as part of the three (3) minute time frame since that is not the intent of the Informal Public Comment period. If the speaker poses a question or makes a request of the City, the Mayor may refer the issue or request to the City Manager for follow up. At the conclusion of the three (3) minute time period, the speaker will be notified that his/her time has elapsed and the next speaker will be recognized to come forward to the podium and address the City Council. The Mayor may rule out of order any Speaker who uses abusive or indecorous language, if the subject matter does not pertain to the City of Garden City, or if the Speaker(s) attempts to engage the City Council Members in a discussion or dialogue on issues. City Council shall not discuss non-agendized matters because it does not give the public adequate notice. Accordingly, City Council shall be limited to asking factual and clarifying questions of staff, and when appropriate, the Council may consider placing a matter on a future agenda. In addition, it is not reasonable to expect staff to respond to any of a variety of issues on which they may or may not be prepared to respond to on a moment's notice, so the City Manager may respond, or direct staff to respond at a later time.

➤ RECEIVE FORMAL PUBLIC COMMENT

- **GICH Housing Team Update:** Ms. Sharon Bethune has requested to address City Council to provide them with an update on the Housing Team's completed projects and their upcoming projects in 2015.

Formal Public Comment – City Council Agenda Protocol

The City of Garden City has identified this portion of the meeting to allow individuals an opportunity to formally address the City Council on issues hear issues of importance. Garden City requires that individuals who desire to formally address the City Council submit a written request form outlining the subject matter that they intend to discuss so that they can be placed on the meeting agenda. Members of the public desiring to be placed on the agenda to present or address matters to the City Council must submit a formal ***“REQUEST TO BE PLACED ON THE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA”*** form to the Office of the City Manager at least 10 days prior to the requested City Council meeting date that you wish to speak. City Council meetings are held on the first and third Monday of each month so the request must be submitted no later than 5:00 pm on the Friday which constitutes 10 days prior. The request can be done in person, regular mail, fax or e-mail and the speaker should obtain acknowledgement of the request from the City to demonstrate that the 10 day requirement has been met. The request form may be obtained from the Office of the City Manager and on the City's website www.gardencity-ga.gov. The request should state the name of the individual(s) desiring to be heard and the subject matter to be presented to City Council. Requests may be referred at the discretion of the City Manager, to appropriate staff for mediation prior to being placed on the public agenda. Please be advised the completion of a request form does not entitle the speaker to be added to the agenda.

➤ CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARINGS

Speaking to a Public Hearing Item

In the interests of time and to ensure fairness of all persons who appear before the City Council to speak for or against a public hearing item, speakers will be limited to three (3) minutes each to address City Council except as described herein. One speaker for the Petitioner may address the City Council for no more than 10 minutes, unless extended by the Mayor. In an effort help the City Council and the general public to better understand the issues, the Mayor may request that a City staff member address the City Council from the podium. Speakers from the general public may only speak when recognized by the Mayor during the public hearing. Speakers will be asked to come to the podium to address the City Council for three (3) minutes and they shall state their name and resident address for the record.

Speakers addressing City Council on a public hearing item should coordinate comments to respect City Council's time limits. Groups should select a spokesperson to present the major points that summarize their position and opinions. Speakers are urged to be brief and non-repetitive with their comments. Comments shall specifically address the public hearing item before the City Council, and the speaker shall maintain appropriate tone and decorum when addressing the City Council. City Council may ask questions of the applicant, speakers, or staff during these proceedings only for the purpose of clarifying information. The speaker shall not direct derogatory comments to any individual, organization, or business. At the conclusion of the three (3) minute time period, the speaker will be notified that his/her time has elapsed and the next speaker will be recognized to come forward to the podium and address the City Council. Once the public hearing is closed on an item, there will be no further opportunity for formal or informal public input at a City Council meeting.

➤ **Approval of City Council Minutes**

- **Consideration of the City Council Meeting Minutes dated 12/1/14 and Workshop Synopsis dated 1/12/15.**

➤ **RECEIVE STAFF REPORTS**

- Receive 2014 Year-End Report from Director of Human Resources
- Receive 2014 Year-End Report from Director of Information Technology
- Receive 2014 Year-End Report from Director of Public Works
- Receive 2014 Year-End Report from Director of Parks & Recreation
- Receive 2014 Year-End Report from Planning, Zoning & Building Director
- Receive 2014 Year-End Report from Director of Water Operations
- Receive 2014 Year-End Report from Director of Public Safety
- City Manager Updates

➤ **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- **Appointment of City Officials** – Consideration of making the following city official appointments:
 - James P. Gerard to serve as City Attorney
 - Tom Edenfield to serve as Municipal Records Court Judge
 - Doug Andrews to serve as Municipal Records Court Judge Pro-tem
 - James P. Gerard to serve as Municipal Records Court Judge Pro-tem
- **Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals Member Appointments** – Consideration of appointing the following individuals to serve on Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals:
 - Bessie Kicklighter to replace Gwyn Hall to serve the remainder of his term.
 - Bowen Jones to replace Steve Backman to serve the remainder of his term.
- **Intergovernmental Agreement & Contract between Garden City & Chatham County Regarding the Collection of City Taxes:** Consideration by Mayor and City Council to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with Chatham County to contract with the Tax Commissioner of Chatham County to oversee and provide the collection of tax monies on behalf of the City of Garden City, Georgia.
- **Resolution, Setting of Municipal Election Qualifying Fee for 2015:** A resolution by the Mayor and Council of Garden City, Georgia, that notice be given to the citizens of Garden City, Georgia, that the qualifying fee for the Office of Mayor shall be \$180.00, and the qualifying fee for the Office of City Council Member shall be \$108.00 for the upcoming general election in November 2015.
- **Resolution, Appointment of Election Duties & Notification of Qualifying Period for 2015:** A resolution by the Mayor and Council of Garden City, Georgia, that the Board of Elections of Chatham County, Georgia, perform all duties as municipal superintendent of elections in Garden City, Georgia, with the exception of the qualification of candidates which shall be the responsibility of the Clerk of Council, and that the Chatham County Board of Registration further perform the duties of absentee ballot clerk; Qualifying for the offices of Mayor and City Council Member will take place at Garden City City Hall commencing August 31, 2015, at 8:30 a.m. and ending September 3, 2014, at 4:00 p.m.

➤ **ADJOURN**